



MINUTES OF THE NASHUA CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Tuesday, January 3, 2017

A. Call to order

A regular meeting of the Nashua Conservation Commission was called to order on Tuesday, January 3, 2017 at 7:00 PM, in Room 208, City Hall, and Second Floor - 229 Main Street.

B. Roll call

Chairman Michael Gallagher, presided;

Members of the Commission Present:

Sherry Dutzy
Donald Cederquist
Brandon Pierotti
Richard Gillespie
Dan Sloan, alt.

Members of the Commission Absent:

Bill Parker

Also in Attendance:

Roger Houston, Planning Department
Scott McPhie, Planning Department

C. Approval of Minutes

- December 6, 2016 – meeting minutes

Commissioner Dutzy said on page 5, sixth paragraph down, she would like to add, "In view of this discussion, she suggested the Commission consider signage for the Northwest Property advising that hunting is allowed."

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER DUTZY, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CEDERQUIST, TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 6, 2016, AS AMENDED.
MOTION CARRIED**

D. New Business

- Karen Wolfe, representing the Nashua Sculpture Symposium, will present future locations for sculptures in the vicinity of the Nashua River Rail trail.

Ms. Wolfe introduced herself as Chair of the Nashua International Sculpture Symposium. Dottie Silber and Bonnie Gurercio introduced themselves as members of the committee.

Ms. Wolfe said the symposium is an annual event that has been held since 2008. She gave an overview of how the symposium operates. This year, they are excited to potentially have some of their sculptures along the Rail Trail. They are looking at the area near the parking lot on Gilson Rd and Countryside Dr. The property meets their requirements for sculpture placement.

The sculptures would be made from granite, metal or a combination of the two materials. They have already discussed the project with Nick Caggiano of the Parks and Recreation Department, and he expressed his support. The theme this year for the symposium is "Together" and there will be three sculptures created. Other than the Rail Trail, there is another site in Mines Falls they are also interested in.

Commissioner Sloan asked if all of the sculptures would be in one area or spread out.

Ms. Wolfe said it's open to recommendation at this point. There are several little areas they identified so they could be spread out.

Mr. Houston said the land is not owned by the City; it is owned by the Groton Woods homeowner's association. The Conservation Commission does not have any jurisdiction on that land other than the easement for the Rail Trail and parking area. There is a conservation easement on the southern side of the trail where there are wetlands. He said they can certainly help the symposium get in touch with the property owners. Otherwise, they may want to consider areas near Lovewells Pond and Buckmeadow Rd.

Mr. Sloan said a sculpture would look nice near the rain garden.

Commissioner Dutzy said there is a parking area near the rain garden. It would be nice for people to see a sculpture here when they park.

Chairman Gallagher said the Buckmeadow area may be a better spot. It is very open because it's all wetlands; there is a field there and a boardwalk. He did not think there would be any issues with placing a sculpture on conservation land. If they find a suitable location, they could email Mr. McPhie to confirm.

Mr. Houston said he would contact the Groton Woods property manager on behalf of the symposium.

- Discussion of New Hampshire Fish and Game suggestion to post the Kiosk areas of Southwest Park for No Hunting.

Chairman Gallagher asked if there were any remaining "No Hunting" signs.

Commissioner Dutzy said yes; she thinks they have about 225 signs.

Commissioner Sloan said he spoke to Nick Caggiano about posting the signs but he was not familiar with the issue. Much of the property is fenced along Gilson Rd, so it may only be necessary to post along the gates.

Chairman Gallagher said the Terrell property was posted, but there is no stewardship plan or easement on the rest of the Gilson Rd property.

Commissioner said although hunting is not permitted, there is confusion among local hunters and information provided by the State.

Chairman Gallagher said the Commission doesn't have any jurisdiction over City parks; this is the responsibility of the Parks and Recreation Department. He doesn't have any issues with posting the kiosks at Buckmeadow, Lovewells Pond and further down Groton Rd between the Terrell property and Hart's. It is his understanding that there is nothing preventing hunting

around Lovewells Pond, as there is no stewardship plan for Lovewells or Buckmeadow at this time.

Commissioner Sloan said someone needs to step up and post Yudickey Park. There is no signage from Yudickey Park into the Terrell property.

Chairman Gallagher said he would talk to Nick Caggiano.

- New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions School Grant partnership discussion.

Chairman Gallagher said there is a grant application that the Commission qualifies for, as well as two educators in the Nashua School system, but the application is due this Friday. They are unable to apply this year because they are still figuring out logistics, but hopefully the grant will be available again next year.

Commissioner Dutzy said they should designate someone to coordinate with the qualifying teachers.

E. Old Business

- Discussion of updates/changes to Nashua Conservation Commission bylaws.

Commissioner Dutzy said they just need to make sure the changes that were made reflect what was discussed in the last meeting's minutes.

Commissioner Sloan asked if he and Commissioner Parker were alternates.

Chairman Gallagher said there should be no alternates because the Commission now has 7 members. He said his term is expired and he needs to meet with Mayor Donchess to renew, so he will discuss the alternate issue with him at that time.

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CEDERQUIST, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER GILLESPIE, TO APPROVE THE BYLAWS AND SUBMIT THEM TO THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN FOR APPROVAL.
MOTION CARRIED**

The motion was amended.

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CEDERQUIST, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DUTZY, TO APPROVE THE BYLAWS AS AMENDED AND SUBMIT THEM TO THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN FOR APPROVAL.
MOTION CARRIED**

Commissioner Dutzy said at the next meeting, they will need to discuss the letter that will be sent to the school principals.

F. Other Business and Updates

G. NCC Correspondence and Communications

Chairman Gallagher said they received notification from NHDES and Eversource regarding two upcoming maintenance programs. One of the programs will occur near the Nashua Sports Academy, and the other is near Diesel Rd.

H. Items

I. Project Updates by Commissioners

J. Nonpublic Session

K. Adjournment

MOTION TO ADJOURN BY COMMISSIONER DUTZY, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER SLOAN.

MOTION CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm.

APPROVED:

Richard Gillespie, Clerk, Nashua Conservation Commission

DIGITAL RECORDING OF THIS MEETING IS AVAILABLE FOR LISTENING DURING REGULAR OFFICE HOURS OR CAN BE ACCESSED ON THE CITY'S WEBSITE. DIGITAL COPY OF AUDIO OF THE MEETING MAY BE MADE AVAILABLE UPON 48 HOURS ADVANCED NOTICE AND PAYMENT OF THE FEE.

Prepared by: Mindy Lloyd

Taped Meeting